

What is a TB Test?



The TB test is a simple skin test!

How is the test done?

A small needle is used to inject some test material, called tuberculin, under the skin of your arm. You cannot get TB from the test material. In 2 or 3 days, you will need to return and have a health care worker look at your arm.

What do my results mean?

Your test is "positive" if you have a small bump on your arm. This bump means you may have TB infection. You will need further tests, such as a chest x-ray, to find out if you have TB infection or TB disease.

Your test may be "negative" if you do not have a bump on your arm. This means that you may not have TB germs in your body. BUT, if you were around a person with active TB disease, you may need to have the test again.

- A TB skin test is done to find out if you have the TB germs in your body.
- The TB test will not tell if you have active TB disease.
- You will need more tests if you have a positive TB test.

If you have questions, contact your public health department or your doctor.

Text - Virginia Department of Health Division of TB Control
www.vdh.virginia.gov/epi/tb November 8, 2002
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A Healthy Roads Media project
www.healthyroadsmedia.org

Funded by the National Library of Medicine under contract N01-LM-1-3513
from the Greater Midwest Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine.

What is a TB Test? - English (Last Reviewed 1/06)